

RESIDENTIAL SECTOR
CRITERIA FOR TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY REVIEW
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

I. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS MUST:

1. Be conducted within the state of Idaho.
2. Demonstrate the ability to conserve energy or the use of renewable energy.
3. Utilize existing, reliable technologies.
4. Meet federal and state air and water quality standards.
5. Be for existing buildings (retrofits only).
6. Be for a primary residence.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

NOTE: The Energy Division strongly encourages you to get a minimum of two bids for each project, however submit only the bid you have chosen with the application. (For projects 1-5 request a Residential Loan application form; for projects included in 6, request a Renewable Loan application form.)

1. Ceiling insulation.
2. Wall insulation.
3. Floor insulation.
4. Heating duct insulation and air sealing.
5. Heating system improvements.
 - a) Electrical upgrades and new control systems relating to the heating system improvement are eligible.
 - b) New ducting is eligible if it is necessary to the new heating system and is insulated.
 - c) Wood heat systems are eligible if they meet the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality or EPA standards.
 - d) Gas appliances (including water heaters) are eligible if they are listed in the current Consumers' Directory of Certified Efficiency Ratings, published by the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA) or the Directory of Certified Gas Space Heaters (excluding Central Furnaces) published by the California Energy Commission and have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) of .65 or greater. Heaters are required to be direct vent, sealed combustion units.
6. Renewable energy resources.
 - a) Renewable resources include solar energy, wind power, waterpower, geothermal energy and biomass resources.

II. INELIGIBLE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

1. New construction. (Exception: The use of renewable energy resources in new construction may be eligible. A separate criteria sheet, which discusses renewable resource projects is available upon request.)
2. Vacation homes.
3. Perimeter/foundation insulation.
4. Other energy conservation measures not listed.
5. Refinancing of existing projects or loans.
6. Projects already in progress or completed.

III. SIMPLE PAYBACK PERIOD

1. Improvement(s) must show an estimated payback period of 15 years or less based on dollar savings calculated by the Department. (A \$1,500 project must save at least \$100 in energy per year.)

IV. LOAN TERMS

1. The interest rate is 4%.
2. Repayment of the loan is 5 years or less. (The repayment period is not the same as the simple payback period.)
3. The loan minimum is \$1,000; the loan maximum is \$15,000.

V. MOBILE HOMES

1. Existing mobile homes or manufactured housing are eligible if they are permanently attached to the land where situated, and the owner of the structure has an ownership interest in the land where situated.

VI. PROJECT APPLICATION FORMS

1. Forms may be requested in person, by mail, or by calling the Department's toll-free Idaho Energy Hotline, 1-800-334-SAVE. An application form is also available on the Internet at www.idwr.idaho.gov/energy/loans

VII. ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

1. The applicant must complete the credit application process and begin installation of energy conservation improvements within 90 days; otherwise, a new application is required.
2. Water rights information must be provided for ascertaining legal compliance with water rights requirements, where applicable.
3. The applicant must be the direct use/benefitter of projects funded by this program. (Income properties are eligible in the Commercial Sector.)

VIII. LOAN APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Complete and return application from to the Department of Water Resources, 322 E. Front St., P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0098.
2. Department staff will review the project for economic and technical feasibility. Applicants whose projects do not meet program criteria will be notified in writing of the Department's decision. The Department will refer applicants whose projects are approved to the financial institution selected by the applicant for credit checks.
3. The financial institution will notify the applicant and the Department whether credit has been approved or denied.
4. The applicant will contact the selected institution to sign the loan documents.
5. All loans will be secured with deed of trust or mortgage.
6. Applicants refinancing their home mortgage after obtaining a loan from the Department will need to pay off the Department's loan in order to obtain new financing. The Department will not subordinate its lien position.
7. The Department will disburse funds through the lending institution.

OTHER CHANGES MAY OCCUR AS NECESSARY.

Revised and effective August 22, 2006